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27 February 1962

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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CONTENTS

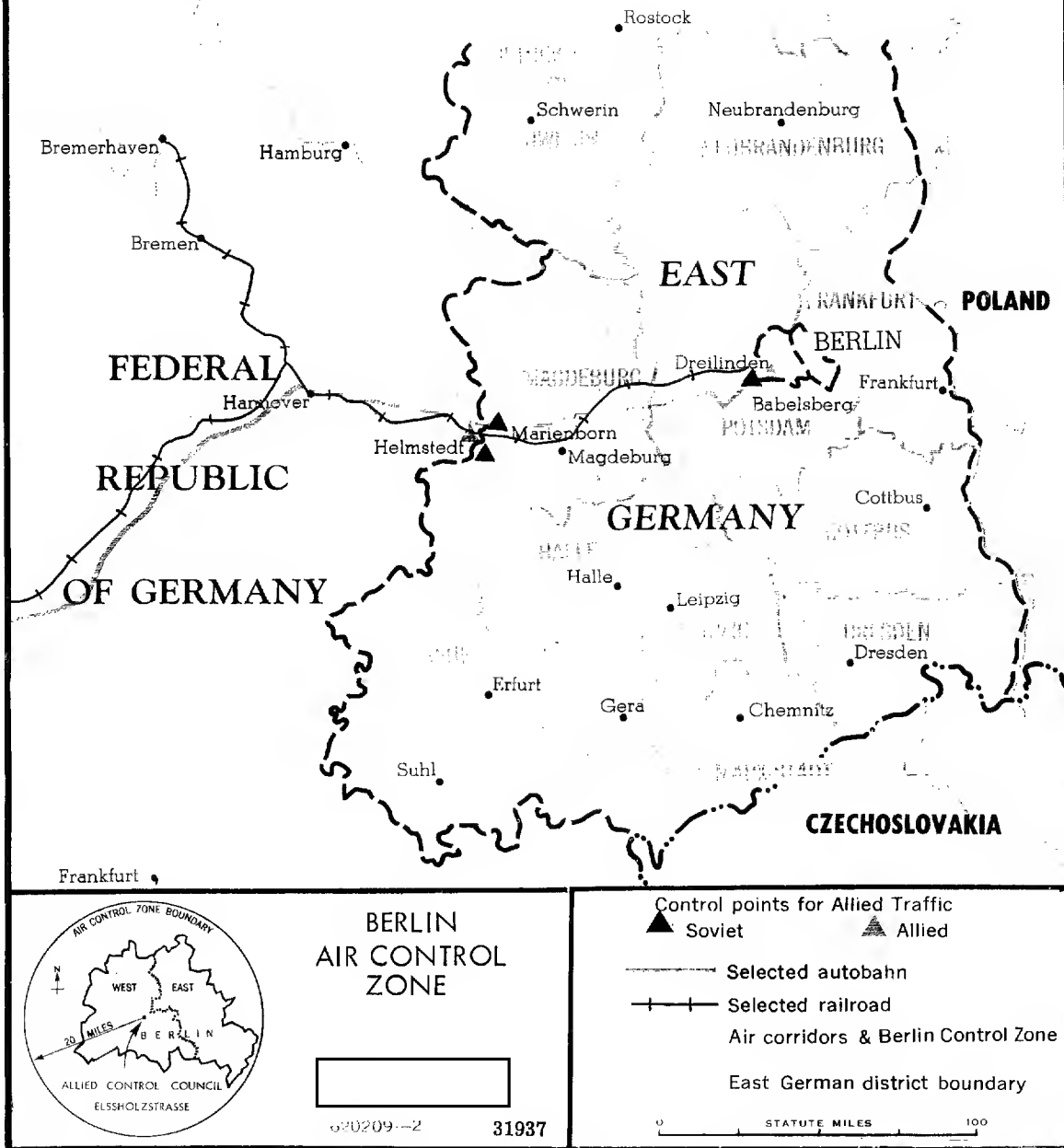
1. USSR-Berlin: Soviet flight plans filed for north and south corridors after four-day respite. (*Page i*)
2. North Vietnam - USSR: Soviet aid has increased number of Hanoi's modern naval craft over 50 percent during past year. (*Page ii*)



4. South Vietnam: South Vietnamese Air Force planes attack Presidential Palace. (*Page iii*)

25X1





27 Feb 62 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN Map Page

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

27 February 1962

DAILY BRIEF

*USSR-Berlin: After a four-day respite, coinciding with a Soviet holiday weekend, the USSR has again filed flight plans for transport movements in the Berlin corridors on 27 February. The resumption of Soviet flights, and the filing of flight plans rather than a return to the blanket reservations used earlier, suggests that for the present Moscow is mainly interested in keeping its position intact by periodically asserting a right to use the corridors at times and places of its own choosing.

According to the Soviet flight plan, two aircraft are to transit the northern corridor from the Berlin area at altitudes of 2,500 and 4,500 feet at 15-minute intervals beginning at 0315 EST and are to leave the west end of the corridor by 0414 EST. Two other aircraft are to fly the southern corridor eastward from Eisenach at 5,000 and 7,000 feet at 15-minute intervals beginning 0431 EST and will leave the corridor in the Berlin area by 0559 EST.

This is the fourth occasion since 20 February on which the Soviets have used the tactic of filing flight plans for corridor flights. These plans for 27 February differ from previous ones in that two corridors are to be involved on the same day and two of the aircraft are to begin their flights from the western end of the corridor.

25X1

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25X1

USSR - North Vietnam: During the past year the Soviet Union delivered three modern submarine chasers, twelve motor torpedo boats, and four patrol craft to the North Vietnamese Navy. These transfers have increased the number of North Vietnam's modern naval craft by over 50 percent and have substantially strengthened its capabilities for combat in inshore waters. Concurrently, supporting shore facilities have been strengthened, particularly in the area just north of the South Vietnamese border, thus improving Hanoi's ability to conduct small-scale naval operations in South Vietnamese waters. Prior to 1961 Hanoi had acquired nearly all of its newer naval units--30 motor gunboats--from Communist China.

25X1

25X1

27 Feb 62

DAILY BRIEF

ii

25X1

25X1 *South Vietnam: The air attacks on President Diem's palace in Saigon early today were carried out by at least two AD-6 fighter-bombers of the South Vietnamese Air Force which separated from a planned strike mission against the Viet Cong. President Diem was unhurt in the attack, during which bombs, rockets, and napalm were used, but extensive damage was done to one wing of the palace. One member of the palace guard was killed and several were injured. [] Diem's sister-in-law, Madame Nhu, was slightly injured. 25X1

25X1 Four aircraft similar to those involved in the attack were scrambled from the Bien Hoa airbase near Saigon to intercept the attackers. One of the attacking pilots was captured when his plane crashed near Saigon and the other has reportedly landed his bullet-riddled plane at Phnom Penh. Neither pilot has been identified with previous coup rumors. []

Tanks were moved in to protect the palace shortly after the attack and traffic continues to move in Saigon under military control. Two airborne battalions have taken control of the Saigon and Bien Hoa airports and the Saigon radio is under the control of the psychological warfare chief. Diem, who broadcast a message announcing his safety, left shortly thereafter on a scheduled provincial tour.

As of 0400 EST this morning, there has been no reaction to the attack on the part of Hanoi radio or the Viet Cong forces in South Vietnam.

27 Feb 62

DAILY BRIEF

iii

25X1 []

THE PRESIDENT

The Vice President

Executive Offices of the White House

Special Counsel to the President

Military Representative of the President

The Special Assistant for National Security Affairs

The Scientific Adviser to the President

The Director of the Budget

The Director, Office of Civil and Defense Mobilization

The Director, National Aeronautics and Space Administration

The Department of State

The Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

The Deputy Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

The Counselor and Chairman of the Policy Planning Council

The Director of Intelligence and Research

The Treasury Department

The Secretary of the Treasury

The Under Secretary of the Treasury

The Department of Defense

The Secretary of Defense

The Deputy Secretary of Defense

The Secretary of the Army

The Secretary of the Navy

The Secretary of the Air Force

The Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Affairs)

The Assistant Secretary of Defense

The Chairman, The Joint Chiefs of Staff

Chief of Naval Operations, United States Navy

Chief of Staff, United States Air Force

Chief of Staff, United States Army

Commandant, United States Marine Corps

U.S. Rep., Military Committee and Standing Group, NATO

Supreme Allied Commander, Europe

Commander in Chief, Pacific

The Director, Defense Intelligence Agency

The Director, The Joint Staff

The Director for Intelligence, The Joint Staff

The Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence, Department of Army

The Director of Naval Intelligence, Department of Navy

The Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence, Department of the Air Force

The Department of Justice

The Attorney General

The Federal Bureau of Investigation

The Director

The Atomic Energy Commission

The Chairman

The National Security Agency

The Director

The United States Information Agency

The Director

The National Indications Center

The Director

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